

Please amend the claims as shown below.

1.(Currently amended) A process for making a metal tool having controlled porosity, comprising the steps of:

 preparing metal powder by gas atomization;
 filling a metal container with the metal powder;
 placing the powder-filled container in a metal vessel;
 surrounding the powder-filled container in the metal vessel with glass frit;
 heating the metal vessel to a temperature sufficient to melt the glass frit; and then
 compacting the metal vessel under sufficient pressure to partially consolidate the metal powder so as to retain ~~a desired amount of~~ porosity therein in an amount sufficient to permit air to vent through the metal tool.

2.(Original)(A process as set forth in Claim 1 wherein the step of preparing the metal powder comprises preparing a tool steel powder.

3.(Original) A process as set forth in Claim 1 wherein the step of heating the metal vessel comprises the step of heating the metal vessel at a temperature of about 1850°F to about 2050°F.

4.(Currently amended) A process as set forth in Claim 1 wherein the step of compacting the metal vessel comprises the step of pressing the metal vessel at a pressure of about 250 ~~tons~~ tsi to about 600 ~~tons~~ tsi.

5.(Original) A process as set forth in Claim 1 wherein prior to the step of filling the metal container, the process comprises the step of screening the metal powder to provide a powder

particle size that is appropriate for the type of product for which the metal tool will be used.

6.(Currently amended) A process for making a composite metal tool having controlled porosity, comprising the steps of:

- preparing metal powder by gas atomization;
- placing a piece of a fully consolidated metal in a metal container;
- filling the metal container with the metal powder;
- placing the powder-filled container in a metal vessel;
- surrounding the powder-filled container in the metal vessel with glass frit;
- heating the metal vessel to a temperature sufficient to melt the glass frit; and then
- compacting the metal vessel under sufficient pressure to bond the metal powder to the fully consolidated metal piece and to partially consolidate the metal powder so as to retain a ~~desired amount of porosity therein~~ in an amount sufficient to permit air to vent through the metal tool.

7.(Original) A process as set forth in Claim 6 wherein the step of preparing the metal powder comprises preparing a tool steel powder.

8.(Original) A process as set forth in Claim 6 wherein the step of heating the metal vessel comprises the step of heating the metal vessel at a temperature of about 1850°F to about 2050°F.

9.(Currently amended) A process as set forth in Claim 6 wherein the step of compacting the metal vessel comprises the step of pressing the metal vessel at a pressure of about 250 ~~tons~~ tsi to about 600 ~~tons~~ tsi.

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10.(Original) A process as set forth in Claim 6 wherein prior to the step of filling the metal container, the process comprises the step of screening the metal powder to provide a powder particle size that is appropriate for the type of product for which the metal tool will be used.